



# St. Clair County Soil & Water Conservation District

3835 NE Hwy 13, Osceola, Mo 64776  
Ph. 417-646-8108 ext. 3

January 2012

## Annual Meeting

The St. Clair County SWCD invites you to our Annual meeting to be held on **March 23rd** this year.

Once again, it will be at the Osceola Assembly of God Church in Osceola with supper being served at 6:30 p.m.

We will have our usual activities planned, such as conservation farmer award presentation, poster contest award winners from county 3rd and 4th grade students etc.

At the present time, we do not have any entertainment (program) lined

up, but we are working on it and will have a program lined up soon.

Please watch our newsletter in February or early March for more details.

We look forward to seeing each of you there again this year, so please mark this on your calendar and plan to come and have a good meeting and nice evening with other landowners from our county.

You can begin calling the office at your convenience to RSVP for the meal.

### Dates to Remember

- FEBRUARY 28— SPRING FORAGE CONFERENCE  
SPRINGFIELD MO
- MARCH 5—BURN WORKSHOP  
LOWRY CITY BOY SCOUT BLDG.
- MARCH 23 — SWCD  
ANNUAL MEETING—ASSEMBLY  
OF GOD CHURCH, OSCEOLA

## Burn Workshop

Landowners who are considering burning warm or cool season grass fields this spring may want to attend our annual burn workshop. Burn workshops are presented by Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) employees. At this workshop you will learn the concepts and techniques of prescribed burning and made aware of possible hazards and other considerations encountered while burning. The burn workshop will be held at the Boy Scout

Building in Lowry City March 5th. Starting at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided and if weather permits, a demo burn will be conducted after lunch so bring appropriate clothes to participate.

Please **call the SWCD office and RSVP** so we can plan how much food to prepare.

Our office has burn equipment for rent to landowners who have attended one of these burn workshops.

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## Cost-Share News



Now may not seem the best time to be thinking about implementing cost-share practices on your farm due to bad weather and all, but actually this is the perfect time to plan the things that have been going through your mind to improve the erosion practices on your land. We still have some funding available for sheet and rill/gully erosion practices to be completed this spring. We have obligated all of our cost-share funds in all other categories. There is strong competition for funding so it is necessary to plan ahead with us to get your name on the waiting list for the future. We no longer have the luxury of allowing landowners to come in and ask and expect to have immediate funding for these practices.

We certainly want this money to be used in St. Clair County if possible. As we have mentioned in the past, it is important for all landowners to be pro-active in requesting cost-share assistance and plan ahead so that we can reserve funding for them. With proper planning and cooperation, we hope to be able to fund most of our cost-share requests within a reasonable time frame, but if that is not possible, we will be glad to add your name to our list of landowners waiting for assistance.

Please call the office and set up an appointment to discuss your plans for implementing cost-share practices in St. Clair County.

### Available Cost-Share Practices

- DSL-1: Permanent Vegetative Establishment
- DSL-2: Permanent Vegetative Cover Improvement
- DSL-4: Terrace Systems
- DSL-11: Permanent Vegetative Cover Critical Area
- DSL-44: Terrace Systems w/tile
- DSP-2: Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement
- DSP-3: Planned Grazing System
- DWC-1: Water Impoundment Reservoir
- DWP-1: Sediment Control Structure
- DWP-3: Sod Waterways
- DFR-4: Forest Plantation
- N351: Well Decommissioning
- N393: Filter Strip
- N574: Spring Development
- WQ10: Stream Protection

## Spring Forage Conference

The annual Southwest Missouri Spring Forage Conference will be Tuesday, **Feb. 28th, 2012** at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield. Each year this conference attracts an increasing number of people interested in learning more about management strategies for forages and livestock.

This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Temple Grandin. Her keynote address will be "Understanding Animal Behavior". The conference will also feature several interesting breakout sessions to choose from including Changes in the Beef Industry, Trichomoniasis, also several sessions concerning stockers, grazing systems,

fertilizing, grazing management, minimizing hay feeding and storage losses, and weed management in hayfields and pasture.

Conference registration fee is \$25.00 before **Feb. 22nd** or \$35.00 at the door. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

A registration form and more information is available at the website: <http://agebb.missouri.edu/sfc> or call the Greene Co. SWCD at 417-831-5246 ext. 3. You can also contact the St. Clair Co. SWCD/NRCS office. For more information.

## NRCS Announces Ranking Dates for Major Conservation Programs and Initiatives

The USDA-NRCS has announced ranking dates for its major conservation programs and initiatives that offer technical and financial assistance to Mo farmers and ranchers.

NRCS accepts applications for financial assistance on a continuous basis throughout the year. However, NRCS established ranking periods for its programs that allow it to rank submitted proposals for funding consideration. NRCS then notifies all applicants of the results of the rankings and begins developing contracts with selected applicants.

The ranking period cutoff dates for the major conservation programs and initiatives that apply in Mo are:  
February 3, 2012

- ◆ Environmental Quality Incentives Program EQIP
- ◆ Organic Initiative
- ◆ Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative March 30, 2012
- ◆ Organic Initiative
- ◆ Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative June 1, 2012

Moving to multiple ranking dates instead of just one annually will make it easier for more producers to apply for the three initiatives and help them get started with implementing the practices they need to benefit the natural resources on their operations. Additional ranking periods for EQIP and WHIP could be established at a later date depending on Missouri's funding allocation.

Program and Initiative Overviews.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program:  
EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to install and implement structural and management conservation practices on agricultural land.

Organic Initiative:  
NRCS helps certified organic growers and producers working to achieve organic certification install conservation practices for organic production.

Seasonal High Tunnel Pilot Initiative  
NRCS helps producers plan and implement the steel-framed, polyethylene-covered structures that extend growing seasons in an environmentally safe manner.



### DISTRICT EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR RENT

10 FT. GREAT  
PLAINS  
NO TILL DRILL  
(WARM SEASON  
BOX)  
\$7.00 PER ACRE  
(\$8.50 OUT OF  
COUNTY)

10 FT. GREAT  
PLAINS  
NO-TILL DRILL  
\$7.00 PER ACRE  
(\$8.50 OUT OF  
COUNTY)

BIG BALE MULCHER  
\$20.00 PER ACRE

BURN EQUIPMENT  
\$25.00 PER DAY

Remember to visit the  
SWCD website : [http://  
www.swcd.mo.gov/stclair/](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/stclair/)

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